OPINION

The solution for Archbald Street

By DAVID BAUM

There is a group of Carbondale residents who have had to suffer intolerable road conditions for too long and the time for doing something about it is now.

For the residents who live on the lower part of Archbald Street that will not be paved by the Carbondale Housing Authority's contract this coming spring, there is something they can do to get the road repaired.

That action is to form an association and go en masse to the city council meetings and demand the legislators earmark some of the funds the city will receive through the Liquid Fuels Tax for the repaving of the street.

And the group should do the same thing to the city administration. They know about the problem, which has gone on for more than two years. By demanding action from both council and the administration, residents will not be able to be told to go see the other side for some action. There will be no time to dilly-dally around if both are asked one simple question -- "Will you repair and repave the lower portion of Archbald Street this year?"

According to city Managing Director Pete Judge, the city should get about $90,000 in Liquid Fuels Tax funds from the state in 1982. So the city will be able to pay for repairs and repaving from the $90,000 the state gives the city. The money is there and some should be used on Archbald Street.

The question is, does the administration and council care enough to take care of these residents' need for the repair of their road?

For almost two years these residents have had to endure driving over deep bumps and potholes that realign their cars, cause accidents and flat tires. Some have had to put up with flooding of their yards. Just driving over the street has become an aggravating experience. The street department can't scrape the road properly in the winter due to all the potholes and depressions. How can they clean the street if they don't have a good surface to scrape on?

City officials on both sides have had long enough time to think about planning repairs and make them. Now is the time to do something about them and promise some action to the residents of Archbald Street who have heard their cries go on deaf ears for too long.